

Judging Jesus

Matthew 26:57-27:2, 11-14; Mark 14:53-15:5; Luke 22:54-23:12; John 18:12-38;
The Desire of Ages, pp. 698-715, 723-731

Four-year-old Ellen and her family were missionaries in Africa. Suddenly Ellen got very sick and died. The whole family loved and served God. They didn't deserve this terrible sadness. But because of sin even good people suffer.

Our Bible story today shows that Jesus suffered terribly, even though He didn't deserve it. Why? Because of the sins of the world.

When Jesus was arrested in the garden of Gethsemane, all the disciples ran away. The mob followed the soldiers down the hill.

across the brook. *What am I doing?* John asked himself. *I should follow the mob to find out what will happen to Jesus.* He and Peter followed the mob toward the home of Annas, then toward the palace of Caiaphas, the high priest.

When they arrived at Caiaphas's palace, the priests let John in because they knew him. John turned and saw Peter walking near the gate. Peter was hiding in the dark outside. He did not want people to see him there. John went back to the woman at the gate. "Please let my friend in," he said. And she did.

She kept watching Peter as he moved to the fire in the courtyard. Finally she asked him, "Aren't you one of Jesus' disciples?"

"Oh! . . . no," said Peter as he turned to warm himself.

Just then Jesus was led onto the big porch beside the courtyard. John pushed as close as he could get. There were bruises on Jesus' face. He walked slowly, painfully, as if His whole body ached.

They made an evil parade with torches lighting the way.

John watched as the evil parade moved

Caiaphas began to ask Jesus what He believed, even though he already knew.

Jesus said, "I have always talked openly.



The Message

I thank Jesus for being willing to suffer for me.

Memory Verse

*"But he was pierced
for our transgressions,
... and by his wounds
we are healed"*

(Isaiah 53:5, NIV).

Your people know Me." A big muscular guard frowned. He swung at Jesus' face and hit Him hard. Jesus was in pain. Yet He stood firm, like a king.

Peter had trouble. Angry sounds escaped him.

There was more questioning back near the fire. "Aren't you one of His disciples?" Peter swore. He hadn't talked like that for a long time. Then a rooster crowed. Peter had denied knowing Jesus three times! Peter looked up and saw Jesus looking at him. There was no anger in the look. Just love. Then Peter rushed out the gate of the courtyard.

The trial went on. Caiaphas asked Jesus another question. Jesus calmly said, "You have said it right, I am the Son of God."

Caiaphas leaped up from his golden throne. "That's it!" he screamed. "Jesus says He is like God!" He was so angry that he ripped his beautiful priestly robe from top to bottom.

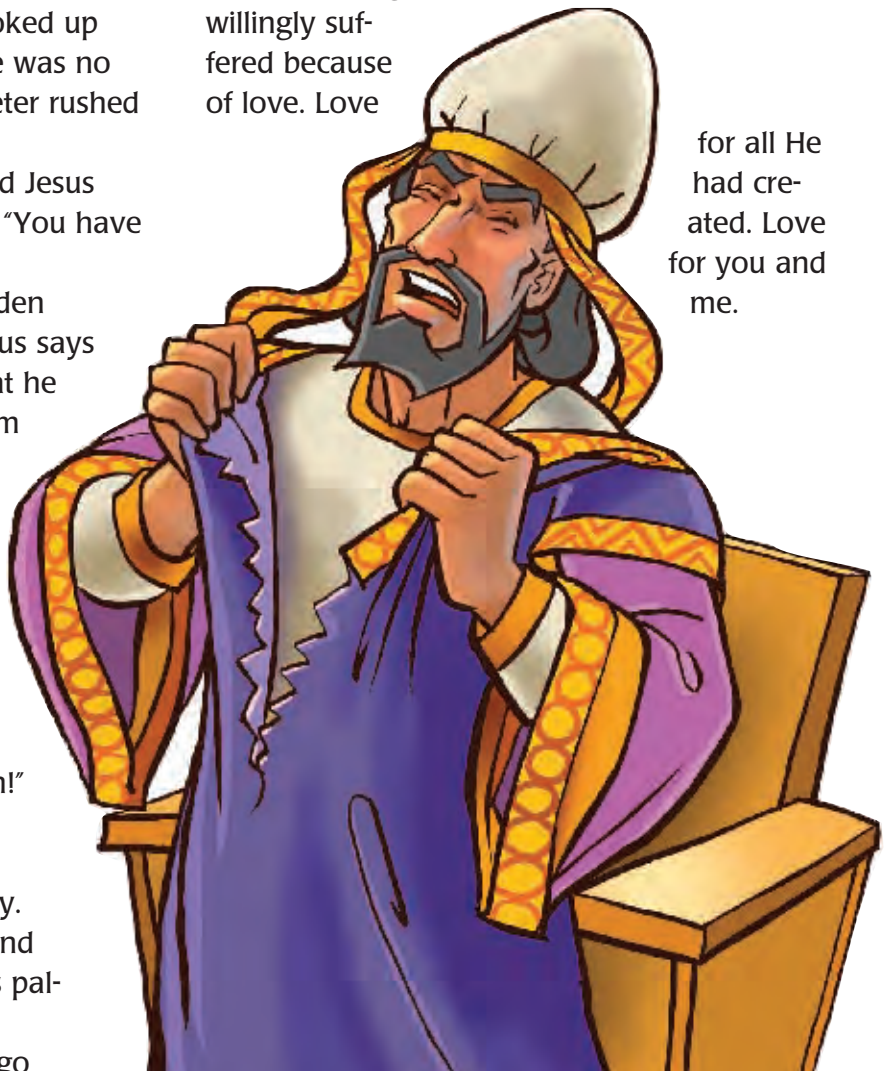
Some who saw it thought, *This is against the law. The high priest is to die if he tears his robe. They will kill Caiaphas!*

But the mob didn't notice Caiaphas. They were too busy shouting, "Death, death to Jesus! Take Him to Pilate! Put Him to death!" People were pushing at Jesus, poking and hitting Him. Soldiers ran in and grabbed Jesus, pulling Him away. Roman soldiers formed a circle around Him and hurried Him toward Pilate's palace.

Within a few hours Jesus would go

to Pilate, to Herod, and back to Pilate. Jesus would be beaten and mocked through it all. What suffering! He willingly suffered because of love. Love

for all He had created. Love for you and me.





S A B B A T H

DO If possible, take a Sabbath walk with your family. Look for animals or birds that act scared and run away when you go near. Make a list or draw pictures of them. Write here how many animals are on your list. Why do these animals run away from us?

READ Sit together and read your Bible lesson.

READ Read and discuss Isaiah 53:5. Who is this prophecy about?

PRAY Thank Jesus for dying for you and your family.

Annas had been high priest and was still called that. His son-in-law Caiaphas was the high priest who condemned Jesus to death.



M O N D A Y

READ Read and discuss Luke 22:54-62 for family worship.

THINK How many times did Peter deny Jesus? _____ What reminded Peter that He denied Jesus? _____ Was Peter sorry? Peter went outside and _____ ptwe
ietbyrtl

DO Make a sound like a rooster. Thank God for birds and animals.

DO Say your memory verse without help.

S U N D A Y

READ During family worship read and discuss the story of Jesus' arrest in John 18:1-11. Which two of Jesus' disciples were named? _____ and _____. Draw a picture of each of them. Put a sword in one's hand and a money bag in the other's hand. What problems did these two disciples have? Where is the nearest police station and courthouse?

DO Teach your memory verse to your family.

SING Sing "I Am So Glad" (Sing for Joy, No. 30) before prayer.

T U E S D A Y

READ Read and discuss Luke 22:63-65 for family worship.

DO Put on a blindfold. Ask family members to gently poke you. Try to guess who did it. How does this compare with how Jesus was treated? Thank Him now for suffering for you.

SHARE Say your memory verse. Tell your family what it means to you.

W E D N E S D A Y

READ With your family, read and discuss Luke 22:66-71. Where is Jesus today? (verse 69)

DO Write your memory verse on adhesive bandages, two or three words on each bandage. Mix them up and then arrange them in order. Tell a friend what it means.

SING Before prayer, sing "More About Jesus" (Sing for Joy, No. 38). Ask Jesus to help you learn more about Him.



T H U R S D A Y

READ

Read and discuss Luke 23:1-7 together with your family.

DO

Have a family court. Accuse a family member of something they did not really do. Choose someone to be the judge, lawyer, witness, and the "guilty" one. Have the judge rule that the accused is guilty. How is your court like the court in this week's Bible story? How is it different? Pray for people who are accused wrongly.

DO

Arrange your memory verse bandages.

F R I D A Y

READ

Read and discuss Luke 23:8-12 during family worship.

DO

Act out Jesus' journey with your family. (Don't really beat "Jesus.") Will you ever suffer as Jesus did? Why?

SING

Say your memory verse and sing "Thank You, Jesus" (Sing for Joy, No. 101).



Judging Jesus

PUZZLE

Directions: Use the code to find out what Peter's fear caused him to do.



D 1	E 2	G 3
H 4	I 5	J 6
K 7	N 8	O 9
S 10	U 11	W 12

4 2 1 2 8 5 2 1
7 8 9 12 5 8 3
6 2 10 11 10